

Letters

Disenfranchised

This is in response to the letter from Bryce Ryan (ODE, May 19) claiming that justified vandalism is legal vandalism.

First, you berate the ODE for not signing their editorials. What connection is there between spray painting a sidewalk or a wall on private property and ink in a newspaper?

Second, not unlike jeans day that did more damage than good for gay rights, graffiti as a public medium is still a crime. Would it make equivalent sense for someone to spray paint important views on your home, if the reason was justified and no other option was available for the so-called artist?

A better brand of vandalism? I know, how about, in some special cases, and only if the cause is a good one mind you, legal shoplifting or even better tenable sexual harassment. All right, enough sarcasm. Agreed, the number of homophobic attitudes and discrimination of any and all minorities on this campus is frightening. And I do support the rights of the disenfranchised, but to get off your back and out of your face in light of the double standard is absurd.

Christopher Doughan
Philosophy

Key role

In response to Mike Swanson's letter (ODE, May 18):

University athletics does a great deal to better the University as a whole and that in turn is a benefit to each individual student.

For some students athletics are their only resource for getting through the rigors of school. These resources range from financial help for the athletes to their maintaining their mental health by taking them away from the numerous hours of study. Maybe you don't see a direct benefit to Mike Swanson, but these athletes and their athletic activities add to the general diversity at the University.

Furthermore, athletic events allow for a sociological factor known as a safety valve. A safety valve can be explained as a time set aside in order to release, or "vent," deviance. University students can release many of their aggressions and frustrations by simply attending a sporting event and yelling support for the team. This venting could, if not for athletics, occur in forms such as slandering individuals, vandalism, fighting, etc....

So you see Mr. Swanson, athletics play a key role in the University and need all the support they can get. And if you can't see this, that is unfortunate for you.

Jim C. Martin
Student

A joke

As the co-authors of "Tingle Force," we feel obligated to clear up the confusion caused by our statements in the article "Tingle Force" tickles dormitory funny bone" (ODE, May 10).

As pointed out by John Sowell in the letter "Old math" (ODE, May 19) we did only make \$1.62 in profits. There seems to be a problem with our

statement that we bought a television set with this revenue. The truth is, we lied.

We both believe ourselves to be fairly humorous fellows, and when we were interviewed for the story we tended to give flip-pant responses to most of Emerald Contributor Karen Engels' questions.

We explained how we sold the book for six cents over production cost and then told her we bought a television with the profits. You see, we were mak-

ing a joke. Anybody in college should be able to see that we could not possibly have made enough money to buy a television. Therein lies the humor.

This should clear up any confusion your readers may have had, and should also serve as a reminder that we can't always believe what we read.

Michael A. Frome
Michael E. Russell
Freshmen

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